

Hi

The 2 screen examples are to help students avoid 2 problems.

Some students assumed that if they used Blackboard before, that the technical requirements to use it were the same or that new equipment the students had would work with Blackboard. For example, some students using unsupported browsers could not see links and quizzes. This link is meant to try to prevent that problem.

Making Sure Your Device and Browser Will Work with Blackboard

Use the "Computer Requirements" link **before** you login. It's in the center of the login screen.

Tip: If your browser is not listed in the lower right hand corner, then you need to try another one.

The screenshot shows the WCJC Blackboard Learn login page. A red box highlights the URL in the browser's address bar: <https://wcjc.blackboard.com/>. Another red box points to the "Read this and this." text in the "Blackboard Login" section. A third red box points to the "Computer Requirements" link in the "Student Help Desk" section. A fourth red box points to the "Announcements" section. A fifth red box points to the "Additional Information" sidebar. A sixth red box points to the "Downloadable Resources" sidebar. A blue box with a red arrow points from the "Additional Information" sidebar to the "Downloadable Resources" sidebar.

Save this URL in case the WCJC site is down (rare) and Blackboard is still up.

Read this and this.

Tip: If you are on a public computer, logout when you are done. Blackboard stays open.

Use the "Computer Requirements" link before you login. Having a new device or that your device worked last term won't protect you. Your device and your current browser must match Blackboard. Students are not seeing links, not see all quiz questions, and so on. Check first!

Tip: An 8-week course is hard. Be sure you match online learning. If you have never taken an online class, consider this useful self-test.

Blackboard Login

Login Help

Default username / password is your student id number including the "@" symbol.

Please change your password upon first entry.

Username:

Password:

Login

Forgot Your Password?

Courses do not become visible in the Blackboard course list until the first day of the semester.

Student Help Desk

Contact IT

[Request for IT Support Form](#)

Phone: (979) 532-6568
Hours: Mon - Thu: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
Fri: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Resources

[Computer Requirements](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Blackboard How-To Videos](#)

Announcements:

Additional Information

[Distance Education Department](#)
[Is Online Learning Right for You?](#)
[WCJC B&N Bookstore](#)
[DE Student Handbook](#)

For Faculty

Schedule

Downloadable Resources

[Download Firefox](#)
[Download Chrome](#)
[Download LockDown Browser](#)
[LockDown Browser User Guide](#)

This is a “pathway” course and it is set up to help you if you follow the “path.” A “pathway” course is one of two broad types of distance learning courses that the Distance Learning Department encourages faculty to use. It is called a “pathway” course because it tries to provide a safe “path” for taking a distance learning course.

Thus far the students I have seen fail were entering through some shortcut method. Example, they clicked on a written exam and started trying to write. They didn’t realize that they could have seen all possible questions and prepared ahead if they had stayed on the “path.”

How to Enter Your Blackboard Course and Stay on the “Path”

Once in Blackboard, enter your course by clicking on it under the Course List—and **no** other way. For example, based on student comments, students who enter through some of the shortcut methods do **not** even see the instructions for exams or assignments.

The screenshot shows the Blackboard homepage for Wharton County Junior College. At the top, there's a red header bar with the college logo and name. Below it, a navigation bar includes links for 'My Institution', 'Courses', 'Community', and 'Services'. On the left, a sidebar titled 'Tools' lists various options like 'Announcements', 'Calendar', 'Tasks', 'My Grades', 'Send Email', 'Personal Information', 'Goals', 'Browse NBC Learn', 'NBC Learn Playlist', 'Course Materials', and 'Course Materials Hub'. An orange callout box highlights the 'Send Email' link with the text: 'Caution: Do not use this email. Instead, email using Blackboard Messages. Messages is available on the left menu within the Blackboard Course.' In the center, there are sections for 'My Announcements' and 'My Courses'. The 'Course List' section is highlighted with a blue arrow and a blue box containing the following text:

For success in this “pathway” course, do this:

1. Look for your History course in the Course List.
2. Click on it.

If you log in when the course first opens, the course will open with a Read Me First page that tells you what to do.

If you come in later, click on Read Me First on the left menu.

How to Go Directly to Getting Started

If you enter the course **when it opens** (and you should), Blackboard automatically displays the required items for Getting Starting—including the required “introductory tasks” you must do before the date in the Course Schedule. It also covers additional steps you must do immediately within the course.

Tip: If you enter the course **late** and Blackboard displays the Home Page, click on “Read Me First” on the left menu.